

Chairman Tellinghuisen called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m., with the following members present: Commissioners Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, and Peterson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Five requests were added to the agenda:

- Approve 1/2/19 County Board Meeting Minutes;
- Approve Noxious and Invasive Plant Grant;
- Approve Abatement on Wal-Mart Property PIN 24-751-0010;
- Consider Hiring Lobby Firm;
- Amend 2019 Animal Control Services Contract.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to accept the agenda; Cmsr Oslin seconded. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cmsr Peterson, seconded by Cmsr Reynolds, to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approve 1/8/19 County Board Meeting Minutes;
- Review of Auditors Warrants;
- Approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services;
- Approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services;
- Approve ShoreTel Connect ONSITE Voice Switch;
- Approve Microsoft Server and Exchange Licenses;
- Approve 2019 Computer Purchase;
- Approve 2019 Computer Purchase for CVS;
- Approve the 2018 County Ditch 2 Inspection Report;
- Approval of Region 7E Adult Mental Health Initiative Governing Board Operating By-Laws;
- Approval of University of MN Morris Center for Small Towns Contract;
- Consolidate Fund – Employment Services Amendment;
- Approve Exempt Permit for Milaca Golf Club Raffle Event;

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
Resolution No.: 01-15-19-02*

APPROVAL OF CHARITABLE GAMBLING

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners hereby approves granting an Exempt Permit for Milaca Golf Club, to conduct a raffle event on April 14, 2019 at Milaca Golf Club, 15679 Central Ave, Milaca MN 56353, Milaca Township.

- Approve Exempt Permit for NWTF Rum River Longbeards Chapter @ Northern Lights;

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
Resolution No.: 01-15-19-03*

APPROVAL OF CHARITABLE GAMBLING

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners hereby approves granting an Exempt Permit for NWTF Rum River Longbeards Chapter, to conduct a raffle event on March 30, 2019 at Northern Lights Ballroom & Banquet Center, 10376 US Hwy 169, Milaca MN 56353, Milo Township.

- Request Approval to Accept Donation to MLC Foster Care Program;
- Information Only: December 2018 Jail Performance Report.

Motion carried.

APPROVE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE SNAKE RIVER 1W1P

Cmsr Peterson had questions on how creating a Snake River One Watershed, One Plan project would get things done that are not being done currently. Environmental Resources Manger Dillon Hayes discuss by partnering with the four required counties in the watershed would open up the opportunity to apply for planning grant funding. The funding for the planning grant is estimated to be \$200,000 . Cmsr Oslin stated this is very important to Isle and watershed for Mille Lacs Lake. Cmsr Oslin motioned to approve the resolution in support of the Snake River

One Watershed, One Plan project; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Cmsr Peterson opposed. Motion carried.

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
Resolution No.: 01-15-19-01*

A RESOLUTION REGARDING SUPPORT OF A SNAKE RIVER MAJOR WATERSHED ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK PROJECT.

WHEREAS, Integrated comprehensive watershed planning is a benefit for the water resources of the Snake River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

WHEREAS, the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Snake River Planning Boundary have interest in developing a coordinated, major watershed-scale implementation framework for this area; and

WHEREAS, the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Snake River Planning Boundary have a successful history of cooperation for resource protection and restoration; and

WHEREAS, participating in the One Watershed One Plan will provide funding for plan development and increase efficiency of disbursement of implementation funds through a plan-based disbursement process; and

WHEREAS, Mille Lacs County has an interest in the concept of One Watershed One Plan provided that it does not create an additional bureaucratic layer of water planning and management;

THEREFORE; BE IT RESOLVED by the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners that Mille Lacs County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Snake River Planning Boundary for major watershed-scale planning efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for a planning grant to develop a coordinated, major watershed-scale implementation framework and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement with the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Snake River Planning Boundary to implement this collaborative effort and be eligible for plan-based implementation funding from BWSR.

EMPLOYEE OUTSTANDING SERVICE RECOGNITION

County Administrator Oman reviewed the employees nominated for the Outstanding Service Recognition award. The award was presented to Amber Pogatshnik, Social Worker in Community and Veterans Services Office (CVS), Lachelle Brinks, Family Home Visiting Coordinator in CVS, Sara Zyvoloski, Intake Social Worker in CVS, and Diana Klages, Property and Records Clerk in Administrative Services Office. Cmsr Tellinghuisen thanked the staff on behalf of the County Board for their service to the County.

HOLD HEARING ON THE REMOVAL OF OBSTRUCTIONS TO COUNTY DITCH 1

Environmental Resources Manager Hayes discussed at the December 18, 2018 County Board meeting the County Board determined that the drainage system had been obstructed, and set a hearing date of January 15, 2019 for the responsible person(s) to appear before the County Board. Notice was provided by certified mail to the three land owners on December 18, 2018. One notice was received back.

Cmsr Oslin motioned to open the public hearing at 9:15 a.m.; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. Motion carried. Cmsr Tellinghuisen asked if anyone would like to speak or comment. No one came forward. Cmsr Peterson motioned to close the public hearing at 9:15 a.m.; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve the findings and order notices to be sent out with the deadline of June 30, 2019 for the obstruction to be removed. If it is not removed then the County will remove the obstruction and assess the landowner. Cmsr Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH PFM FOR FILING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Administrative Financial Manager Jess Olson reviewed PFM is the County's financial advisor. PFM provides services for filing assistance for the Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15 (c)2-12 relating to the continuing disclosure of financial information as it pertains to the debt Mille Lacs County has issued. The fee for the service is \$1,500. Cmsr Reynolds motioned to approve the agreement with PFM for filing assistance services; Cmsr Oslin seconded. Motion carried.

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO.: 2019-1-15-19-01 REQUESTING A HEARING OF THE EQB REGARDING MN RULE 4420.4300 SUBP 27

County Engineer Bruce Cochran noted an error on the County Board agenda. The agenda title should include MN Rule 4420.4300 subp 27 instead of MN Rule 4420.4300 subp 2. The Environmental Quality Board (EQB) is proposing a change to MN Rule 4410.4300 that will require additional permitting, documentation, and review with regard to wetlands. County Engineer Cochran has taken the resolution Aitkin County created and modified it to fit the needs to Mille Lacs County with the addition of a request for a hearing. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to adopt resolution 2019-1-15-19-01, requesting a hearing on the proposed change to MN Rule 4410.4300 subp 27; Cmsr Oslin seconded. Motion carried.

*Board of Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
REQUEST OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD
TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING
PWD Resolution No. 2019-1-15-19-01*

WHEREAS, Mille Lacs County has a land area of approximately 436,500 acres and approximately 171,900 acres or 39% are wetlands.

WHEREAS, Mille Lacs County is the Local Governing Unit for the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA).

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2018, the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board published Notice of Intent to adopt proposed amendments to the Rules Governing Environmental Review.

WHEREAS, MN Rules 4410.4300, Subp 27, Wetland and Public Waters are being proposed to be amended.

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments to MN Rules 4410.4300, Subp 27, will reduce the allowed wetland impact amount from 5 acres to 1 acre, and the types of wetland are now increased from type 3 through 8 to type 1 through 8.

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments to MN Rules 4410.4300, Subp 27, will have a significant impact on the time and cost in our road projects and other large scale projects.

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments to MN Rules 4410.4300, Subp 27, will require an EAW for accessing suitable building sites for some residential properties.

WHEREAS, through the WCA, all of these wetland activities are reviewed and must follow an approved process. We believe that the proposed language, with added and duplicative wetland scrutiny, is unnecessary.

WHEREAS, reducing the threshold from 5 acres of impact to 1 acre, and expanding the types of wetland to include types 1 and 2 is not practical for Mille Lacs County, or many other counties with a large portion of their land area still remaining in wetlands.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners opposes any amendment to MN Rules 4410.4300, Subp 27.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners requests a hearing on the proposed changes to MN Rule 4410.4300, Subp 27.

APPROVE 1/2/19 COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administrative Financial Manager Olson reviewed the 1/2/19 County Board meeting minutes. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve the 1/2/19 County Board meeting minutes; Cmsr Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVE NOXIOUS AND INVASIVE PLANT GRANT

County Administrator Pat Oman reviewed Mille Lacs County applied for the Noxious and Invasive Plant grant through the MN Department of Agriculture. Mille Lacs County was awarded \$5,000 toward noxious weed control. The Mille Lacs Soil and Water Conservation District will administer the grant, with the funding going to Mille Lacs County. Cmsr Oslin

motioned to approve the Noxious and Invasive Plant grant; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

CONSIDER HIRING LOBBY FIRM

County Administrator Oman reviewed the recommendation to hire Hill Capital Strategies Inc. to provide government affairs services to assist with implementing the Mille Lacs County 2019 Legislative Platform during the 2019 Legislative session. This includes monitoring the Walz Administration and Legislature for activity that could impact the County's relations with the Mille Lacs Band. County Administrator reviewed the 2019 Legislative priorities with the County Board. Cmsr Peterson asked how often Hill Capital Strategies Inc. will communicate with Mille Lacs County. County Administrator Oman stated it would be 2-3 times a week. Cmsr Oslin motioned to authorize County Administrator to sign the proposal with Hill Capital Strategies Inc.; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVE ABATEMENT ON WAL-MART PROPERTY PIN 24-751-0010

County Assessor Al Heim reviewed the Wal-Mart litigation for taxes payable for 2017 and 2018. The taxes payable for 2017 to be paid in 2018 was dismissed. The taxes payable for 2018 to be paid in 2019 is the abatement being reviewed. In the settlement for taxes payable for 2018, a total of \$8,082 would be reduced from the amount owed and billed in 2019. Cmsr Wilhelm asked if we settle, can Wal-Mart come back again? County Assessor Heim stated they could, but they do have a 2 year plan with the settlement. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve the abatement to reduce and abate the estimated market value used for the 2018 assessment used for taxes payable 2019 by a total of \$8,082; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

AMEND 2019 ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES CONTRACT

County Administrator Oman reviewed the County Board approved the Animal Control Services contract with On-Line Retrievers at the December 18, 2018 County Board meeting. The contract that was approved had a daily rate of \$15 per day for 10 days as opposed to the historic flat rate of \$150. The Commissioners also had follow up questions on fees, quarantine, and company policies. David and Michele Russell provided answers to their questions and were present at the County Board meeting. David and Michele Russell explained Mille Lacs County has one of the lowest rate schedules for 10 days compared to other cities or counties. The Russell's explained they could charge a daily rate of \$35 with, an admin fee of \$50, and mileage or they could charge a flat rate fee of \$150. The fee covers their fees, licenses, building expenses, insurance, and other operating expenses. Discussion took place on how they handle dog bites, rabies watch, and quarantine of animals. Cmsr Peterson motioned to amend the contract to include the historic flat rate fee of \$150 and authorize the County Administrator to sign; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m.; Cmsr Oslin seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

/s/ Pat Oman
Pat Oman
County Administrator

/s/ Roger Tellinghuisen
Roger Tellinghuisen
County Board Chairman